

# WILLIAM BUYS.

Wm. Buys, editor of the Wasatch Wave, is the youngest son of Hyrum D. and Elizabeth Huntington Buys. He was born at Bonanza, Davis county, Utah, December 22, 1852. He never knew a father's parental care.

*Wm Buys*

the fifth child in a family of eight. In early life he was a shepherd boy and watched his flock knitting in hand as they fed upon the blooming heather on the hills and moors of his native land.

This scene—the blooming heather—in the breeze upon the hills, to his mind, forms the most beautiful picture he has ever seen.

In his early manhood he spent 7 years in the coal mines. It was during this time that he heard and embraced the gospel as revealed by Joseph Smith and taught by his followers, and it was here he secured the call to come to Zion.

It came about in this way: Some immigrants to California had started across the plains with a band of sheep but the ravages of the wolves had reduced the flock to about fifty head, which were sold to President Brigham Young. He had a similar experience with the wolves and sent word to Franklin D. Richards, president of the British mission, to send him two Scotch shepherd boys with their dogs and John M. Murdock was chosen to take the mission.

He quit his work, sold what property he had, purchased two shepherd dogs and started for Utah January 1, 1852, accompanied by his wife and their two little children. As they neared the mouth of the Mississippi river, their vessel struck upon a sand bar. It was nearly two weeks before they were rescued and during that time they and all the other passengers suffered terribly from hunger and



William Buys was born at Bonanza, Utah, Dec. 22, 1852, the son of Hyrum and Elizabeth Huntington Buys, the ninth child in a family of 10. His parents joined The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in New York soon after its organization, and followed the leaders through all the trying scenes and persecutions in Illinois and Missouri, finally landing in Bonanza, Utah, Sept. 15, 1850. His father died in 1855, and his mother died in 1873.

Mr. Buys was a graduate of the University of Utah, and began teaching school in Heber Valley in 1876. While teaching he studied law and also found time to revise the school system in the valley and to modernize it. He was admitted to the bar of both the district and the United States courts.

He served several terms as county attorney, also as county surveyor. For many years he was identified with the Board of Education of Wasatch County; was a prominent member of the Utah Press Assn., serving several terms as its president, and was a member of the National Press Assn. His achievement which he was most proud of, however, was the founding and successful managing of the Wasatch Wave.

Mr. Buys married Sarah Jane McDonald, daughter of John and Lucinda Cole McDonald, December 25, 1883. Their family consisted of 11 children, seven girls and four boys. Six members of the family are still living: Mrs. D. John Bloom (Lucinda), Mrs. F. L. Schmitz (Fay), Mrs. F. R. Gentry (Velda), Mrs. A. F. Stewart (Delaine), James Francis and William Buys.

Mr. Buys held many positions of trust,

among them we might mention county attorney, city attorney, school trustee, county surveyor and editor. He was a member of the State Constitutional Convention, and took an active part in framing the constitution of Utah.

William Buys died Nov. 27, 1909.